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EXAMINER

POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2004

110

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/997,706

Applicant(s)

EJIRI, SEISHI

Examiner

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-11,17-19 and 21-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-11,18,19 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/27/04 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment was received on 1/27/04, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-4, 7-11, 17-19, and 21-28** are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, seen in pages 16-19, filed 1/27/04, with respect to the rejection of **claims 1-4, 7-11, 18, 19, and 21-28** under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Ikeda *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,720,014) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ikeda *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,720,014) in view of Hashimoto (U.S. Patent Number 5,838,459).

4. Particularly, the examiner concedes that Ikeda, noted above, does not teach of a notification that includes transmission result information **and** the document transmitted by the

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transmitter. Previously the examiner believed that the claim was not clear, suggesting that the notification could include either the transmission result information or the document. However, upon reconsideration, the examiner finds that this is not the case. Because of this, the rejection, as cited in the Office action dated 9/23/03, is withdrawn. However, after a subsequent search, a new reference was found, noted above as Hashimoto, which teaches of a notification that includes both transmission result information and the document transmitted. Therefore, a new rejection appears below based on these two references.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 1-4, 7-11, 18, 19, 21-28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,720,014, cited in the Office action dated 9/23/03) in view of Hashimoto (U.S. Patent Number 5,838,459).

Regarding **claim 1**, Ikeda discloses a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) which comprises a connector (I/F controller 113), adapted to connect a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (column 4, lines 39 through 52, which could be a personal computer or a word processor that are externally connected), an operation input unit (console unit 107, as well as the I/F controller 113), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line

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55 through column 4, line 52), a data transmitter (communication controller 108), adapted to transmit a document based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, lines 15 through 28), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include the connector (see Fig. 1), and a notification unit (CPU 101), adapted to notify a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114), via the connector (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27), the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information in accordance with a change in state of the data communication system (see Figs. 7-12, and 27), the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and the notification unit notifies, in a case where user information is input by the operation unit with an address of the external data communication terminal, the data processing terminal corresponding to the user information of the transmission result information (seen in Fig. 12, column 23, line 6 through column 24, line 24, as well as seen in Fig. 43, column 50, lines 8 through 66).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information**, representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on

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the designation inputted by the operation input unit, **and the document transmitted by the data transmitter**. Hashimoto discloses a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) that comprises a connector (communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, lines 59 through 66), adapted to connect a network (LAN 304) that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (see Fig. 14, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), an operation input unit (user interface 103, within the transmission management unit 100), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), a data transmitter (facsimile transmission unit 204 and facsimile device 306, seen in Figs. 1 and 14), adapted to transmit a document based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (destination) via a line *different from* the connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306), and a notification unit, adapted to notify a data processing terminal, via the connector (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted by the data transmitter (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a

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drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result), the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information in accordance with a change in state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 2 through 29, and column 12, lines 34 through 57), the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57), and the notification unit notifies, in a case where *information* is input by the operation unit with an address of the external data communication terminal (see Fig. 3), the data processing terminal corresponding to *the information* of the transmission result information (column 6, lines 41 through 50, and column 12, lines 3 through 25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda.

Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding **claim 2**, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 1 above, and Ikeda further teaches that the data transmitter transmits the document based on a second designation from the data processing terminal connected to the data communication system via the connector (see Figs. 27 and 29).

Regarding **claim 3**, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 1 above, and Ikeda further teaches of the transmission result information notified by the notification unit includes a transmission destination (see Fig. 26, column 39, lines 1 through 39).

Regarding *claim 4*, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 1 above, and Ikeda further teaches of the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information in accordance with a change in information to be notified (see Figs. 7-12, and 26-29).

Regarding *claim 7*, Ikeda discloses a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) which comprises a connector (I/F controller 113), adapted to connect a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (column 4, lines 39 through 52, which could be a personal computer or a word processor that are externally connected), an operation input unit (console unit 107, as well as the I/F controller 113), adapted to receive a manual designation from an operator (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), a designation unit (I/F controller 113), adapted to designate an ID (user ID), representing a user on the network connected by said connector, from the manual designation input by way of an operation of the operation input unit (column 44, line 50 through column 48, line 15), a data transmitter (communication controller 108), adapted to transmit a document based on a destination input by the operation input unit in accordance with an ID designation performed by the designation unit (column 4, lines 15 through 28, and column 46, lines 12 through 45), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include the connector (see Fig. 1), a notification unit (CPU 101), adapted to notify the user on the network connected by the connector (information processing terminal 114, see Fig. 1) corresponding to the ID designated by the designation unit (column 46, lines 12 through 45), wherein notification includes information (column 39, line 15

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through column 40, line 26), representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27), a determination unit, adapted to determine whether or not the ID is designated by the designation unit (column 45, lines 5 through 65), and a controller, adapted to control the notification unit in accordance with a determination result by the determination unit (column 45, line 35 through column 46, line 30), wherein the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information**, representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit, **and the document transmitted by the data transmitter**. Hashimoto discloses a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) that comprises a connector (communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, lines 59 through 66), adapted to connect a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (see Fig. 14, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), an operation input unit (user interface 103, within the transmission management unit 100), adapted to receive a manual designation from an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), a data transmitter (facsimile transmission unit 204 and facsimile device 306, seen in Figs. 1 and 14), adapted to transmit a document based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), with the document being

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transmitted to an external data communication terminal (destination) via a line *different from* the connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306), and a notification unit, adapted to notify a data processing terminal on the network connected by the connector (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted by the data transmitter (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result), wherein the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding **claim 8**, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and Ikeda further teaches of the notification unit not performing a notification process in an absence of an ID designated by the designation unit (see Figs. 37-39,

wherein if the user ID is not effective, error contents are sent, thereby not performing a notification process).

Regarding *claim 9*, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and Ikeda further teaches that the ID designated by the designation unit is information representing a user on a network (column 43, line 66 through column 44, line 61).

Regarding *claim 10*, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and Ikeda further teaches that the data transmitter transmits the document, based on the designated ID, from the data processing terminal connected to the data communication system via the connector (column 44, line 50 through column 48, line 15).

Regarding *claim 11*, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and Ikeda further teaches of the information notified by the notification unit includes a transmission destination (see Fig. 26, column 39, lines 1 through 39).

Regarding *claim 18*, Ikeda discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (ROM 102, column 3, lines 44 through 54) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) connected to a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals via a connector (I/F controller 113, column 4, lines 39 through 52, which could be a personal computer or a word processor that are externally connected), with the program comprising program code for an input step, of receiving a designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52) using an operation input unit (console unit 107, as well as the I/F controller 113), program code for a transmission step, of transmitting a document based on the designation manually inputted in

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the input step (column 4, lines 15 through 28), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include the connector (see Fig. 1), and program code for a notification step, of notifying a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114), via the connector (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), representing a document communication performed in the transmission step based on the designation manually input in the input step (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27) in accordance with a change in state of the data communication system (see Figs. 7-12, and 27), the notification step notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and the notification step includes notifying, in a case where user information is input using the operation unit with an address of the external data communication terminal, the data processing terminal corresponding to the user information of the transmission result information (seen in Fig. 12, column 23, line 6 through column 24, line 24, as well as seen in Fig. 43, column 50, lines 8 through 66).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information**, representing a document communication performed in the transmission step based on the designation manually input in the input step, **and the document transmitted by the transmission step**. Hashimoto discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (being inherently included in the workstation 301, column 12, lines 3 through 6) for

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implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) connected to a network (LAN 304) that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals via a connector (communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25) with the program comprising program code for an input step, of receiving a designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52) using an operation input unit (user interface 103, within the transmission management unit 100), program code for a transmission step, of transmitting a document based on the designation manually inputted in the input step (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (destination) via a line *different from* the connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306), and program code for a notification step, of notifying a data processing terminal, via the connector (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), representing a document transmission performed in the transmission step based on the designation manually input in the input step (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted by the transmission step (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result) in accordance with a change in state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 2 through 29, and column 12, lines 34 through

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57), the notification step notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57), and the notification step includes notifying, in a case where *information* is input by the operation unit with an address of the external data communication terminal (see Fig. 3), the data processing terminal corresponding to *the information* of the transmission result information (column 6, lines 41 through 50, and column 12, lines 3 through 25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding *claim 19*, Ikeda discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (ROM 102, column 3, lines 44 through 54) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) connected to a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals via a connector (I/F controller 113, column 4, lines 39 through 52, which could be a personal computer or a word processor that are externally connected), with the program comprising program code for an input step, of receiving a designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52) using an operation input unit that is part of the data communication system (console unit 107, as well as the I/F controller 113), program code for a designation step of designating an ID (user ID), representing a user's data processing terminal on the network connected by said connector, from the designation manual inputted (column 44, line 50 through column 48, line 15), program

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code for a transmission step, of transmitting a document based on the designation manually inputted in the input step using the operation input unit (column 4, lines 15 through 28, and column 46, lines 12 through 45), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include the connector (see Fig. 1), program code for a notification step, of notifying the user's data processing terminal on the network connected by the connector (information processing terminal 114, see Fig. 1) corresponding to the designated ID (column 46, lines 12 through 45), wherein notification includes information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), representing a document communication performed in the data transmission step based on the designation manually inputted in the input step (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27), program code for a determination step, of determining whether the ID is designated in the designation step (column 45, lines 5 through 65), and program code for a control step, of controlling the notification step in accordance with a determination result of the determination step (column 45, line 35 through column 46, line 30), wherein the notification step notifies the user's data processing terminal of information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information**, representing a document communication performed in the transmission step based on the designation manually input in the input step, **and the document transmitted by the transmission step**. Hashimoto discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program

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(being inherently included in the workstation 301, column 12, lines 3 through 6) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) connected to a network (LAN 304) that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals via a connector (communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25) with the program comprising program code for an input step, of receiving a designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52) using an operation input unit that is part of the data communication system (user interface 103, within the transmission management unit 100), program code for a transmission step, of transmitting a document based on the designation manually inputted in the input step (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (destination) via a line *different from* the connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306), and program code for a notification step, of notifying a data processing terminal, via the connector (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), representing a document transmission performed in the transmission step based on the designation manually input in the input step (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted by the transmission step (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the

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transmission result), wherein the notification step notifies the data processing terminal of information related to a document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding *claim 21*, Ikeda discloses a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) that communicates with an external device via a transmission path (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28), and that communicates with a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114, seen in Fig. 1, column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 45), with the system comprising a signal path (I/F controller 113) through which the data communication system communicates with the data processing terminal (column 4, lines 39 through 52), with the signal path being a path different from the transmission path (see Fig. 1), an input section (console unit 107, as well as the I/F controller 113) through which an operator manually inputs a designation to the data communication system (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), a transmitter (communication controller 108) that, based upon the manually inputted designation (column 4, lines 15 through 28), transmits a document through the transmission path (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) to the external device (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station), and a notifier (CPU 101) that, because of a change in state of the data communication system (see Figs. 7-12, and 27), notifies the data processing terminal through the signal path (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45),

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wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), corresponding to the document transmission by the transmitter based upon the manually inputted designation (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27), the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the transmitter (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and the notification unit notifies, in a case where user information is input by the input unit with an address of the external data communication terminal, the data processing terminal corresponding to the user information of the transmission result information (seen in Fig. 12, column 23, line 6 through column 24, line 24, as well as seen in Fig. 43, column 50, lines 8 through 66).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information** corresponding to the document transmission by the transmitter based upon the manually inputted designation, **and the document transmitted by the transmitter**. Hashimoto discloses a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) that communicates with an external device via a transmission path, and that communicates with a data processing terminal (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306), the system comprising a signal path through which the data communication system communicates with the data processing terminal, the signal path different from the transmission path (through LAN 304, see Fig. 14, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), an input section (user interface 103, within the transmission management unit 100) through which an operator manually inputs a designation to the data communication system (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), a transmitter (facsimile

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transmission unit 204 and facsimile device 306, seen in Figs. 1 and 14) that, based upon the manually inputted designation, transmits a document through the transmission path to the external device (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), a notifier that, because of a change in state of the data communication system, notifies the data processing terminal through the signal path (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B) corresponding to a document transmission by the transmitter based upon the manually inputted designation (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the data transmitted by the transmitter (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result), the notifier notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the transmitter (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57), and the notifier notifies, in a case where *information* is input by the input unit with an address of the external data communication terminal (see Fig. 3), a data processing terminal corresponding to *the information* of the transmission result information (column 6, lines 41 through 50, and column 12, lines 3 through 25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding *claim 22*, Ikeda discloses a method of controlling a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) that communicates with an external device (partner station, seen in Fig. 7, via communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28), and with a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114, seen in Fig. 1, column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 45), with the method comprising the steps of manually inputting a designation to the data communication system (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), transmitting a document to the external device (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a transmission path (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28), based upon the manually inputted designation (column 4, lines 15 through 28), the transmitting step producing transmission result information (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and notifying, as a consequence of a change in state of the data communication system (see Figs. 7-12, and 27) and via a signal path (through I/F controller 113) that does not correspond to the transmission path (see Fig. 1), the data processing terminal (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), the notifying step notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmitting step (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and the notifying step includes notifying, in a case where user information is input in the input step with an address of the external device, a data processing terminal corresponding to the user information of the transmission result information (seen in Fig. 12,

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column 23, line 6 through column 24, line 24, as well as seen in Fig. 43, column 50, lines 8 through 66).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information, and the document transmitted in the transmitting step**. Hashimoto discloses a method of controlling a data communication system that communicates with an external device and with a data processing terminal (see Figs. 1 and 14), with the method comprising the steps of manually inputting a designation to the data communication system (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), transmitting a document to the external device via a transmission path, based upon the manually inputted designation (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), the transmitting step producing transmission result information (column 5, lines 2 through 29), and notifying, as a consequence of a change in state of the data communication system via a signal path that does not correspond to the transmission path, the data processing terminal (through LAN 304, see Fig. 14, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted in the transmitting step (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result), the notifying step notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the transmitting step (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57), and the notifying step includes notifying, in a case

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where *information* is input in the input step with an address of the external device (see Fig. 3), a data processing terminal corresponding to *the information* of the transmission result information (column 6, lines 41 through 50, and column 12, lines 3 through 25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding **claim 23**, Ikeda discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (ROM 102, column 3, lines 44 through 54) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) that communicates with an external device (partner station, seen in Fig. 7, via communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28), and a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114, seen in Fig. 1, column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 45), with the program comprising code for an input step, of inputting a manual designation to the data communication system (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), code for a transmission step, of transmitting a document to the external device (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a transmission path (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28), based upon the input manual designation (column 4, lines 15 through 28), the transmission step producing transmission result information (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and code for a notification step, of notifying, as a consequence of a change in state of the data communication system (see Figs. 7-12, and 27) and via a signal path (through I/F controller 113) that is not the transmission path (see Fig. 1), the data processing terminal (column 4, line 61

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through column 5, line 45), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), and the document transmitted in the transmission step (column 40, line 28 through column 41, line 52, whereby the information processing terminal 114 is notified of the File ID and the number of pages of the transmitted document, and can further be notified so as to receive the actual document designated by the File ID, as seen in Figs. 28 and 29), the notification step includes notifying the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (step S7-013 in Fig. 7, step S8-021 in Fig. 8A, step S1109 in Fig. 11, and step S1211 in Fig. 12A), and the notification step includes notifying, in a case where user information is input in the input step with an address of the external device, a data processing terminal corresponding to the user information of the transmission result information (seen in Fig. 12, column 23, line 6 through column 24, line 24, as well as seen in Fig. 43, column 50, lines 8 through 66).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information, and the document transmitted in the transmission step**. Hashimoto discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (being inherently included in the workstation 301, column 12, lines 3 through 6) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) that communicates with an external device and with a data processing terminal (see Figs. 1 and 14), with the program comprising code for an input step, of inputting a manual designation to the data communication system (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), code for a transmission step, of transmitting a document to the external device via a transmission path, based upon the input manual designation (column 4, line

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36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), the transmission step producing transmission result information (column 5, lines 2 through 29), and code for a notification step, of notifying, as a consequence of a change in state of the data communication system via a signal path that does not correspond to the transmission path, the data processing terminal (through LAN 304, see Fig. 14, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted in the transmitting step (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result), the notification step includes notifying the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the transmission step (column 5, line 2 through column 6, line 10, and column 12, lines 34 through 57), and the notification step includes notifying, in a case where *information* is input in the input step with an address of the external device (see Fig. 3), a data processing terminal corresponding to *the information* of the transmission result information (column 6, lines 41 through 50, and column 12, lines 3 through 25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

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Regarding **claim 24**, Ikeda discloses a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1) which comprises a connector (I/F controller 113), adapted to connect a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114, seen in Fig. 1, column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 45) to the data communication system (column 4, lines 39 through 52), an operation input unit (console unit 107, as well as the I/F controller 113), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), an input unit (read controller 106), adapted to input a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 52), a data transmitter (communication controller 108), adapted to transmit the document input by the input unit based on the designation input by the operation input unit (column 4, lines 15 through 28, see Figs. 11 and 12), with the document being transmitted to the destination (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include the connector (see Fig. 1), and a notification unit (CPU 101), adapted to notify the data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114), via the connector (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), representing a document transmission performed by the transmitter based on the designation input by the operation input unit (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information** representing a document transmission performed by the transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit, **and the document transmitted by the data transmitter**. Hashimoto discloses a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14) that

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comprises a connector (communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, lines 59 through 66), adapted to connect a network (LAN 304) that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (see Fig. 14, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), an operation input unit (user interface 103, within the transmission management unit 100), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), an input unit, adapted to input a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 12, lines 7 through 16), a data transmitter (facsimile transmission unit 204 and facsimile device 306, seen in Figs. 1 and 14), adapted to transmit the document input by the input unit based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 36 through column 5, line 13, and column 12, lines 3 through 25), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (destination) via a line *different from* the connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306), and a notification unit, adapted to notify a data processing terminal, via the connector (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B), representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted by the data transmitter in accordance with a transmission operation (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle

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is shown on the display, along with the transmission result). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding *claim 25*, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 24 above, and Ikeda further teaches that the connector (I/F controller 113) connects a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (column 4, lines 39 through 52, which could be a personal computer or a word processor that are externally connected).

Regarding *claim 26*, Ikeda and Hashimoto disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 24 above, and Ikeda further teaches of a reader which reads an image on a document and generates an image document (read controller 106), wherein the input unit inputs the image document from the reader and the data transmitter transmits the image document inputted by the input unit (column 3, line 60 through 52).

Regarding *claim 27*, Ikeda discloses a method of controlling a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1), with the method comprising the steps of a reception step, of receiving a manual designation, manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), an input step, of inputting a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 52), a transmission step, of transmitting the document to the destination (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include a connector (I/F controller

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113, see Fig. 1), adapted to connect a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114, seen in Fig. 1, column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 45) to the data communication system (see Fig. 1), the document is based on the received manual designation (column 4, lines 15 through 28, see Figs. 11 and 12), and a notification step, of notifying the data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27), via the connector (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information** representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation, **and the document transmitted** in accordance with a transmission operation. Hashimoto discloses a method of controlling a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14), with the method comprising the steps of a reception step, of receiving a manual designation, manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), an input step, of inputting a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 12, lines 7 through 16), a transmission step, of transmitting the document to the destination via a line *different from* a connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306) adapted to connect a data processing terminal to the data communication system (see Fig. 14, communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), the document based on the received manual designation (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), a notification step, of notifying the data processing terminal, wherein notification

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includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B) representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted in accordance with a transmission operation, via the connector (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Regarding *claim 28*, Ikeda discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (ROM 102, column 3, lines 44 through 54) for implementing a method of controlling a data communication system (facsimile apparatus seen in Fig. 1), with the program comprising program code for a reception step, of receiving a manual designation, manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 55 through column 4, line 52), program code for an input step, of inputting a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 52), program code for a transmission step, of transmitting the document to the destination (see Figs. 8-12, being a partner station) via a line (communication lines 116 or 117, column 4, lines 15 through 28) that does not include a connector (I/F controller 113, see Fig. 1), adapted to connect a data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114, seen in Fig. 1, column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 45) to the data communication system (see Fig. 1), the

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document is based on the received manual designation (column 4, lines 15 through 28, see Figs. 11 and 12), and program code for a notification step, of notifying the data processing terminal (information processing terminal 114), wherein notification includes transmission result information (column 39, line 15 through column 40, line 26), representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation input (see Figs. 7-12, 26, and 27), via the connector (column 4, line 61 through column 5, line 45).

However, Ikeda fails to specifically teach if the notification **includes transmission result information** representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation input, **and the document transmitted** in accordance with a transmission operation. Hashimoto discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing a program (being inherently included in the workstation 301, column 12, lines 3 through 6) for implementing a method of controlling a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 14), with the program comprising program code for a reception step, of receiving a manual designation, manually inputted by an operator (column 3, line 59 through column 4, line 52), program code for an input step, of inputting a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 12, lines 7 through 16), program code for a transmission step, of transmitting the document to the destination via a line *different from* a connector (through a telephone circuit by the facsimile transmission unit 204, column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 7, and seen in Fig. 14 via facsimile device 306) adapted to connect a data processing terminal to the data communication system (see Fig. 14, communication line 305, using a communication interface, such as RS232C or SCSI, column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), the document based on the received manual designation (column 11, line 59 through column 12, line 25), program code for a notification step, of notifying the data processing

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terminal, wherein notification includes transmission result information (being the data in the transmission log file, column 5, lines 2 through 29, column 10, lines 62 through column 11, line 3, and see Figs. 13A and 13B) representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation (column 4, line 12 through column 5, line 18, see Figs. 13A and 13B), and the document transmitted in accordance with a transmission operation, via the connector (being the drawing list, column 5, lines 2 through 67, and column 10, line 62 through column 11, line 3, and seen in Fig. 13B, wherein a specific sheet of a drawing bundle is shown on the display, along with the transmission result). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Hashimoto in the system of Ikeda. Ikeda's system would easily be modified to include the teachings of Hashimoto, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. **Claim 17** is allowed.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding **claim 17**, in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious to have the system, as claimed, include the limitations requiring at the data communication system, inputting a designation manually entered by an operator using an operation input unit, and designating an ID based on the manual designation inputted using the operation input unit, as well as at the data processing terminal, the limitation of independently storing the communication result information related to the document communication.

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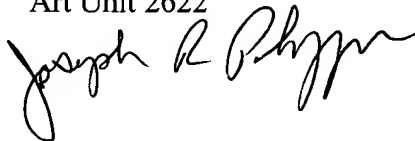
Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (703) 305-0146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Examiner
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jrj